

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing Amendment and the following Remarks.

As a result of this proposed Amendment, claims 29-35, 37-43, 45-51 and 53 remain pending. Applicants propose amending claims 29, 37, 38, 45, 46 and 53 and canceling claims 36, 44 and 52 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Rejection of Claims 29-30, 32-33, 35-39, 41-42, 44-47, 49-50 and 52-53

On page 2 of the Final Office Action of August 10, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 29-30, 32-33, 35-39, 41-42, 44-47, 49-50 and 52-53 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,796,397 to Kusano in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,061,711 to Song et al. (“Song”). Applicants submit that amended claims 29, 38 and 46 obviate the rejection. Claims 29, 38 and 46 were amended to include the features of claims 36, 44 and 52, respectively. Claims 36, 44 and 52 were canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby making the rejection to these claims moot. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 36, 44 and 52 be withdrawn. Claims 37, 45 and 53 were amended to depend from claims 29, 38 and 46, respectively.

Independent claim 29 is directed to a method of performing context switching in a portable processing device. The method includes, among other things, providing a context packet control panel to permit a user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets. Applicants submit that Kusano and Song, either separately or in any combination, fail to disclose or suggest such a feature.

On page 4 of the Final Office Action, the Examiner admitted that Kusano does not specifically teach providing a context packet control panel to permit a user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets (as formerly recited in claim 36 and now recited in claim 29) and to manage an amount of memory used by the context packets (as recited in

claim 37). However, the Examiner alleged that Song, at abstract, lines 20-30, and col. 2, lines 16-21, discloses that an application programmer could choose an appropriate point at a location in an executing program that requires preserving a minimal portion of processor information across a context switching. Applicants submit that neither Kusano nor Song disclose or suggest, either separately or in combination, providing a context packet control panel to permit a user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets, as required by claim 29.

Song, at abstract, lines 20-30, discloses:

At a predetermined appropriate point in the executing program, the co-processor responds by halting program execution and saving only the minimal amount of processor state information necessary for successful restoration of the program. The appropriate point is chosen by the application programmer at a location in the executing program that requires preserving a minimal portion of the processor information across a context switch. By saving only a minimal amount of processor information, processor time savings are accumulated across context save and restoration operations.

Thus, Song discloses that an application programmer can choose a location in an executing program at which the executing program may be halted before performing a context switch. Further, an amount of processor state information necessary for successful restoration of the program depends upon the particular location at which the executing program is halted. Therefore, it is up to the application programmer to choose a location in the executing program that requires preserving a minimal portion of the processor information across a context switch. Apparently, the application programmer must provide an address indicating a location at which the executing program may be halted, or the application programmer must include one or more statements in the application code to indicate a point at which the executing program may be halted in order to perform a context switch. Kusano and Song do not disclose or suggest providing a context packet control panel to permit the user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets.

Song, at col. 2, lines 16-21, discloses:

The appropriate point corresponds to a point in the currently executing program which may reduce the amount of processor state information needed for successfully resuming the context switched out program and may not necessarily immediately follow receipt of the context switch request.

Thus, Song discloses that the appropriate point for reducing the amount of processor state information that must be saved before performing a context switch in a currently executing program may not immediately follow a request for a context switch.

Song, at col. 8, lines 55-60 discloses:

The application program includes markers interspersed by the programmer throughout the application program such that a marker is encountered on an approximately regular basis. In this embodiment, the marker is a conditional context switch instruction of co-processor 204 referred to as VCCS.

Thus, Song discloses that markers are interspersed by the application programmer throughout the currently executing program. Further, according to Fig. 6, a context switch will not occur unless a context switch instruction is encountered (act 604) and a context switch has been requested (act 606). Thus, as previously stated, the application programmer inserts one or more markers throughout a program indicating a point at which a context which may occur. Applicants submit that inserting such markers would not be practical through the use of a context packet control panel.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants submit that Kusano and Song fail to disclose or suggest providing a context packet control panel to permit a user to set at least one parameter that affects context packets, as required by claim 29. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 29 be withdrawn.

Amended independent claims 38 and 46 recite features similar to those of claim 29. Applicants submit that claims 38 and 46 are patentable over Kusano in view of Song for reasons similar to those discussed with respect to claim 29. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 38 and 46 be withdrawn.

Claims 30, 32, 33, 35, 37, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 53 depend from one of claims 29, 38 or 46 and are patentable over Kusano in view of Song for at least the reasons discussed

above with respect to claims 29, 38 or 46. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 30, 32, 33, 35, 37, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 53 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 31, 40 and 48

On page 6 of the Final Office Action of August 10, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 31, 40 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kusano and Song, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,675,762 to Bodin et al (“Bodin”). Applicants submit that amended independent claims 29, 38 and 46 obviate the rejection.

Claims 31, 40 and 48 depend from claims 29, 38 and 46, respectively, which are patentable over Kusano in view of Song for at least the reasons discussed above, with respect to claims 29, 38 and 46. Applicants submit that Bodin fails to satisfy the deficiencies of Kusano and Song. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 31, 40 and 48 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 34, 43 and 51

On page 7 of the Final Office Action of August 10, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 34, 43 and 51 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kusano and Song, and further in view of Applicants Admitted Prior Art (AAPA). Applicants submit that amended independent claims 29, 38 and 46 obviate the rejection.

Claims 34, 43 and 51 depend from claims 29, 38 and 46, respectively, which are patentable over Kusano in view of Song for at least the reasons discussed above, with respect to claims 29, 38 and 46. Applicants submit that AAPA fails to satisfy the deficiencies of Kusano and Song. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 34, 43 and 51 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all outstanding issues, Applicants respectfully submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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